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Ralph E. Droms

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EXAMINER

WILLIAMS, CLAYTON R

ART UNIT

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2157

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/807,651	Applicant(s) DROMS, RALPH E.	
	Examiner Clayton R. Williams	Art Unit 2157	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 08 April 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,14-17,19-22,24-30 and 32-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,6-12,14-17,19-22,24-30 and 32-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 March 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-4, 6-12, 14-17, 19-22, 24-30 and 32-41 are pending in this application, of which claims 38-41 are new per Apr. 8, 2008 amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

3. Claims 19 and 29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 19 and 29 recite the limitation "the host computer". There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

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(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims 1-3, 6-8, 19-21, 24-26, 36-38 and 40 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Monachello et al., US 6,748,439 (hereinafter Monachello).

For claim 1, Monachello discloses a method for reconfiguring a host computer

(Abstract), the method comprising:

enabling the host computer to access a network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53, disclosure of CPE interfacing between host computer and internet provider);

intercepting a network message i) received from over the network and ii) destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host); and

in response to intercepting the network message, disabling the network interface to prompt the host computer to perform a reconfiguration routine (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 2, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 1, wherein disabling the network interface includes:

terminating a link between the host computer and the network at a link layer of a connection-oriented protocol supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

For claim 3, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 1 further comprising:

identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command transmitted from a configuration server through the network interface to the host computer, the network message transmitted by the configuration server to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address).

For claim 6, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 1 further comprising:

monitoring communications including commands received from over the network and destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24); and

wherein disabling the network interface includes temporarily disabling a link supporting communications from the host computer through the network interface to deny the host computer access to the network, denial of access to the network prompting the host computer to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer for further communications through the network interface (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

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For claim 7, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 1, wherein disabling the host computer includes:

temporarily terminating an electronic signal otherwise transmitted on a communication link from the network interface to the host computer to maintain a connection between the host computer and the network, termination of the electronic signal causing the host computer to initiate a routine to re-establish another communication link through the network interface to access the network (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

For claim 8, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 1, wherein disabling the network interface causes the host computer to detect that the host computer is no longer able to communicate through the network interface, the host computer, in response, initiating a routine to re-establish a link through the network interface to access the network via a different network service than used to access the network prior to the disabling of the network interface (col. 5, lines 24-25, 29 and 58-61, disclosure that after host instructed to change its IP address, the host initiates DHCP routine to acquire new address).

For claim 19, Monachello discloses a computer system supporting access to a network (Abstract), the computer system including:

a processor (col.3, lines 26-29, inherent that disclosed workstations possess processors);

a memory unit that stores instructions associated with an application executed by the processor (col.3, lines 26-29, inherent that disclosed workstations possess memory units);

a communication interface that supports communication with nodes in the network (col.3, lines 31-34); and

an interconnect coupling the processor, the memory unit, and the communication interface (col.3, lines 26-29), enabling the computer system to execute the application and perform operations of:

enabling the host computer to access a network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53);

intercepting a network message i) received from over the network and ii) destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host); and

in response to intercepting the network message, disabling the network interface to prompt the host computer to perform a reconfiguration routine (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 20, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 19, wherein the operation of disabling the network interface includes:

terminating a link between the host computer and the network at a link layer of a connection-oriented protocol supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

For claim 21, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 19 further performing an operation of:

identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command transmitted from a configuration server through the network interface to the host computer, the network message transmitted by the configuration server to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address).

For claim 24, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 19 further performing operations of:

monitoring communications including commands received from over the network and destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24); and

wherein disabling the network interface includes temporarily disabling a link supporting communications from the host computer through the network interface to deny the host computer access to the network, denial of access to the network prompting the host computer to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer for further

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communications through the network interface (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 25, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 19, wherein the operation of disabling the host computer includes:

temporarily terminating an electronic signal otherwise transmitted on a communication link from the network interface to the host computer to maintain a connection between the host computer and the network, termination of the electronic signal causing the host computer to initiate a routine to re-establish another communication link through the network interface to access the network (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

For claim 26, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 19, wherein the operation of disabling the network interface causes the host computer to detect that the host computer is no longer able to communicate through the network interface, the host computer, in response, initiating a routine to re-establish a link through the network interface to access the network via a different network service than used to access the network prior to the disabling of the network interface (col. 5, lines 24-25, 29 and 58-61, disclosure that after host instructed to change its IP address, the host initiates DHCP routine to acquire new address).

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For claim 36, Monachello discloses a computer system coupled to a network that supports transmission of data (col.3, lines 26-29, disclosure of workstations), the computer system including:

means for enabling the host computer to access a network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53);

means for intercepting a network message i) received from over the network and ii) destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host); and

in response to intercepting the network message, means for disabling the network interface to prompt the host computer to perform a reconfiguration routine (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 37, Monachello discloses a computer program product including a computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon for processing data information, such that the instructions, when carried out by a processing device, enable the processing device to perform the steps of:

enabling the host computer to access a network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53);

intercepting a network message i) received from over the network and ii) destined for receipt by the host computer through the network interface (col. 5, lines 14-

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16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host); and

in response to intercepting the network message, disabling the network interface to prompt the host computer to perform a reconfiguration routine (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 38, Monachello discloses a method as in claim 8 wherein:

the method further comprises receiving at the network interface from the host computer a web-based command to connect the host computer to the network via the different network service, and sending the web-based command across that network (col. 3, lines 54-65, disclosure of web-based interface for selecting an internet service provider); and

intercepting the network message includes receiving the network message in response to sending the web-based command across the network (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host)

For claim 40, Monachello discloses a computer system as in claim 25 further performing operations of receiving at the network interface from the host computer a web-based command to connect the host computer to the network via the different network service; and sending the web-based command across the network (col. 3, lines 54-65,

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disclosure of web-based interface for selecting an internet service provider); and wherein:

the operation of intercepting the network message includes receiving the network message in response to sending the web-based command across the network (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

6. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

7. Claim 4 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Monachello, in view of Applicant Admitted Prior Art (AAPA).

For claim 4, Monachello fails to explicitly disclose wherein identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command includes:

detecting that the network message is a DHCPFORCERENEW (Dynamic Host Control Protocol Force Renew) command transmitted from the configuration server to the host computer, the configuration server attempting to initiate reconfiguration of the

host computer based on the host computer executing the DHCPFORCERENEW command.

However, para. [0012] of applicant's specification (US 2005/0114341) discloses that DHCPFORCERENEW was a published component at the time of applicant's claimed invention. Monachello and AAPA are analogous art because both are from the field of providing server assigned IP addresses to hosts.

As such, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Monachello to include these aspects of the DHCP protocol specification, because this modification would allow a configuration server more latitude in assigning IP addresses to host systems.

For claim 22, Monachello fails to explicitly disclose wherein the operation of identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command includes:

detecting that the network message is a DHCPFORCERENEW (Dynamic Host Control Protocol Force Renew) command transmitted from the configuration server to the host computer, the configuration server attempting to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer based on the host computer executing the DHCPFORCERENEW command.

However, para. [0012] of applicant's specification (US 2005/0114341) discloses that DHCPFORCERENEW was a published component at the time of applicant's

claimed invention. Monachello and AAPA are analogous art because both are from the field of providing server assigned IP addresses to hosts.

As such, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify Monachello to include these aspects of the DHCP protocol specification, because this modification would allow a configuration server more latitude in assigning IP addresses to host systems.

8. Claims 9-12, 14, 15, 17, 27-30, 32, 33, 35, 39 and 41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Monachello, in view of Galanes et al, US 2004/0113908 (hereinafter Galanes).

For claim 9, Monachello fails to explicitly disclose:

identifying that the host computer supports a reconfiguration command associated with the network message;

in lieu of disabling the network interface, forwarding the network message to the host computer that, in turn, initiates reconfiguration of the host computer based on execution of the reconfiguration command.

However, Galanes discloses a server which detects the capabilities of a client, and accordingly provides information/commands to the client in a format which matches the client's capabilities ([0051]). Monachello and Galanes are analogous art because

both are from the field of web-based client/server services system which provide functionality to a client in response to a client command.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Monachello with client-side capabilities detection because this modification allows Monachello to provide compatible commands to a requesting host system.

For claim 10, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 1 further comprising:

receiving a second network message through the network interface from over the network (col. 3, lines 43-47, disclosure that CPEs may provide a different internet provider pipe for each workstation on a subnet);

identifying that the second network message includes a reconfiguration command directed to second host computer (col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address); and

forwarding the other network message to the second host computer which executes the reconfiguration command to reconfigure the second host computer with a new network address (Galanes, [0051]).

For claim 11, Monachello discloses a method for reconfiguring a host computer to access a network (Abstract), the method comprising:

providing the host computer access to the network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53, disclosure of CPE interfacing between host computer and internet provider);

after forwarding the network message to the host computer, monitoring communications transmitted from the host computer through the network interface to identify whether the host computer initiates reconfiguration of the host computer based on execution of the network message (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, inherent in disclosure that CPE forces host to acquire new IP, is CPE's awareness of current IP from which host sends messages); and

in response to detecting that the host computer does not initiate reconfiguration of the host computer based on receipt of the network message, disabling the network interface utilized by the host computer to access the network (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE forces host to acquire new IP address).

Monachello fails to explicitly disclose:

forwarding a network message transmitted to the host computer from a node in the network through the network interface, the network message including a command to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer for further communications through the network interface;

However, Galanes discloses a server which detects the capabilities of a client, and accordingly provides information/commands to the client in a format which matches the client's capabilities ([0051]). Monachello and Galanes are analogous art because

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both are from the field of web-based client/server services system which provide functionality to a client in response to a client command.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Monachello with client-side capabilities detection because this modification allows Monachello to provide compatible commands to a requesting host system.

For claim 12, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 11, wherein providing the host computer access to the network through a network interface includes:

supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface based on a connection oriented protocol (Monachello, col. 4, lines 5-7, disclosure of TCP messages).

For claim 14, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 12, wherein disabling the network interface includes:

terminating a link between the host computer and the network at a link layer of a connection-oriented protocol supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface (Monachello, col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 15, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 11 further comprising:

identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command transmitted from a configuration server through the network interface to the host computer, the network message transmitted by the configuration server to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer (Monachello, col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address).

For claim 17, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 12, wherein disabling the network interface prompts the host computer to initiate a request for an assignment of a new network address supporting further communications through the network interface (Monachello, col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 27, Monachello fails to explicitly further performing operations of:

identifying that the host computer supports a reconfiguration command associated with the network message;

in lieu of disabling the network interface, forwarding the network message to the host computer that, in turn, initiates reconfiguration of the host computer based on execution of the reconfiguration command.

However, Galanes discloses a server which detects the capabilities of a client, and accordingly provides information/commands to the client in a format which matches the client's capabilities ([0051]). Monachello and Galanes are analogous art because both are from the field of web-based client/server services system which provide functionality to a client in response to a client command.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Monachello with client-side capabilities detection because this modification allows Monachello to provide compatible commands to a requesting host system.

For claim 28, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 19 further performing operations of:

receiving a second network message through the network interface from over the network (Monachello, col. 3, lines 43-47, disclosure that CPEs may provide a different internet provider pipe for each workstation on a subnet);

identifying that the second network message includes a reconfiguration command directed to second host computer (Monachello, col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address); and

forwarding the other network message to the second host computer which executes the reconfiguration command to reconfigure the second host computer with a new network address (Galanes, [0051]).

For claim 29, Monachello discloses a computer system supporting access to a network, the computer system including:

a processor (col.3, lines 26-29, inherent that disclosed workstations possess processors);

a memory unit that stores instructions associated with an application executed by the processor (col.3, lines 26-29, inherent that disclosed workstations possess memory units);

a communication interface that supports communication with nodes in the network (col.3, lines 31-34); and

an interconnect coupling the processor, the memory unit, and the communication interface (col.3, lines 26-29), enabling the computer system to execute the application and perform operations of:

providing the host computer access to the network through a network interface (col. 3, lines 50-53);

after forwarding the network message to the host computer, monitoring communications transmitted from the host computer through the network interface to identify whether the host computer initiates reconfiguration of the host computer based on execution of the network message (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, inherent in disclosure that CPE forces host to acquire new IP, is CPE's awareness of current IP from which host sends messages); and

in response to detecting that the host computer does not initiate reconfiguration of the host computer based on receipt of the network message, disabling the network interface utilized by the host computer to access the network (col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE forces host to acquire new IP address).

Monachello fails to explicitly disclose:

forwarding a network message transmitted to the host computer from a node in the network through the network interface, the network message including a command to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer for further communications through the network interface;

However, Galanes discloses a server which detects the capabilities of a client, and accordingly provides information/commands to the client in a format which matches the client's capabilities ([0051]). Monachello and Galanes are analogous art because both are from the field of web-based client/server services system which provide functionality to a client in response to a client command.

It would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the teachings of Monachello with client-side capabilities detection because this modification allows Monachello to provide compatible commands to a requesting host system.

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For claim 30, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 29, wherein providing the host computer access to the network through a network interface includes:

supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface based on a connection oriented protocol (Monachello, col. 4, lines 5-7, disclosure of TCP messages).

For claim 32, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 30, wherein the operation of disabling the network interface includes:

terminating a link between the host computer and the network at a link layer of a connection-oriented protocol supporting communications between the host computer and the network through the network interface (Monachello, col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61).

For claim 33, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 29 further performing operations of:

identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command transmitted from a configuration server through the network interface to the host computer, the network message transmitted by the configuration server to initiate reconfiguration of the host computer (Monachello, col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, CPE acts with awareness received messages purposed for reconfiguring host IP address).

For claim 35, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 30, wherein the operation of disabling the network interface prompts the host computer to initiate a request for an assignment of a new network address supporting further communications through the network interface (Monachello, col. 5, lines 29 and 58-61, disclosure that CPE disables its connection to host in response to receipt of message from CO).

For claim 39, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a method as in claim 11 where in:

the method further comprises receiving at the network interface from the host computer a web-based command to connect the host computer to the network via the different network service than used to connect the host computer to the network prior to the disabling of the network interface, and sending the web-based command across the network to the node in the network (Monachello, col. 3, lines 54-65, disclosure of web-based interface for selecting an internet service provider); and

forwarding the network message includes receiving, at the network interface, the network message from the node in the network in response to sending the web-based command across the network to the node in the network (Galanes, [0051]).

For claim 41, the combination of Monachello and Galanes discloses a computer system as in claim 29 further performing operations of receiving at the network interface from the host computer a web-based command to connect the host computer to the network

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via the different network service than used to connect the host computer to the network prior to the disabling of the network interface, and sending the web-based command across the network to the node in the network (Monachello, col. 3, lines 54-65, disclosure of web-based interface for selecting an internet service provider); and wherein:

the operation of intercepting the network message includes receiving, at the network interface, the network message from the node in the network in response to sending the web-based command across the network to the node in the network (Monachello, col. 5, lines 14-16 and 21-24, disclosure that CPE receives IP configuration message from CO that is bound for host).

9. Claims 16 and 34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Monachello, in view of Galanes, and further in view of AAPL.

For claim 16, the combination of Monachello and Galanes fails to explicitly disclose wherein identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command includes:

detecting that the network message is a DHCPFORCERENEW (Dynamic Host Control Protocol Force Renew) message transmitted from the configuration server to the host computer, the configuration server attempting to initiate reconfiguration of a network address of the host computer via the network message.

However, para. [0012] of applicant's specification (US 2005/0114341) discloses that DHCPFORCERENEW was a published component at the time of applicant's claimed invention. The combination of Monachello and Galanes and AAPA are analogous art because both are from the field of providing server assigned IP addresses to hosts.

As such, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Monachello and Galanes to include these aspects of the DHCP protocol specification, because this modification would allow a configuration server more latitude in assigning IP addresses to host systems.

For claim 34, the combination of Monachello and Galanes fails to explicitly disclose wherein the operation of identifying that the network message is a reconfigure command includes:

detecting that the network message is a DHCPFORCERENEW (Dynamic Host Control Protocol Force Renew) message transmitted from the configuration server to the host computer, the configuration server attempting to initiate reconfiguration of a network address of the host computer via the network message.

However, para. [0012] of applicant's specification (US 2005/0114341) discloses that DHCPFORCERENEW was a published component at the time of applicant's claimed invention. The combination of Monachello and Galanes and AAPA are

analogous art because both are from the field of providing server assigned IP addresses to hosts.

As such, it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art at the time of the invention to modify the combination of Monahcello and Galanes to include these aspects of the DHCP protocol specification, because this modification would allow a configuration server more latitude in assigning IP addresses to host systems.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments, filed Apr. 8, 2008 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, these rejections have been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, new grounds of rejection are made.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Clayton R. Williams whose telephone number is 571-270-3801. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ario Etienne can be reached on 571-272-4001. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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